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Hypnotized 3 Times In Probe, Russo Says

By George Lardner Jr.
Washington Post Staff Writer

NEW ORLEANS, March 16—Candy-chewing Perry Russo testified today that he had been hypnotized to improve his memory of an alleged plot to assassinate President Kennedy.

On the witness stand for the third day in a row, Russo said he was put under hypnosis three times by a New Orleans physician for questioning in the presence of investigators for District Attorney Jim Garrison.

Now an insurance salesman from Baton Rouge, Russo has sworn that he heard Lee Harvey Oswald, free-lance pilot David W. Ferrie, and bachelor-businessman Clay Shaw scheming to murder Kennedy after a late-night party at Ferrie's flat here in September of 1963. Shaw has been booked on a conspiracy charge.

United Press International
DEAN A. ANDREWS
. . . indicted for perjury

Meanwhile the Orleans Parish Grand Jury concluded its session by indicting lawyer Dean Adams Andrews Jr. on a perjury charge. A few minutes later he was dropped from his post as Assistant District Attorney of neighboring Jefferson Parish.

Andrews is the man who introduced the Warren Commission and the world to "Clay Bertrand," whom Garrison claims is really Shaw. Andrew described "Bertrand" as "mostly a voice over the phone" who sought legal help

See ORLEANS, A5, Col. 7.

for Oswald both before and after the assassination.

On the stand, however, Andrews has repeatedly refused to identify Shaw as "Bertrand." He has also refused a bid by Garrison's office to prod his memory with either hypnosis, sodium pentathol or a lie detector test.

Russo, who had once been under psychiatric care, trod a narrow line between apparent inconsistencies before leaving the witness stand late today. He said he could not recall just when he had undergone hypnosis, a favorite memory-prodder among Garrison's staff members.

'Extremely Tired'

"All I remember is being asked questions," he said. "I've lost track of the numbers (dates). I'm extremely tired."

"Are you under hypnosis now?" commanded F. Irvin Dymond, one of Shaw's attorneys.

"Absolutely not," Russo replied.

Russo, who said he first met Ferrie as a teen-ager, said he knew Shaw as "Clem Bertrand" and Oswald as "Leon Oswald" at the plot-party.

Then a college student at Loyola University, Russo said that as many as ten persons may have attended the party, but that the others had left before the conspiracy talks began. Among the party-goers, he testified today, were two Latin types named "Julien" and "Manuel."

Defense attorneys for Shaw promptly secured a subpoena for Immigration and Naturalization Service records on a Julien Buznedo, a Bay of Pigs veteran now living in Denver.

Garrison reportedly has been searching for both Buznedo and a Manuel Garcia-Gonzalez since mid-January.

Despite wide publicity given photos of Oswald after the assassination, Russo said he was never sure "Leon Oswald" and Lee Harvey Oswald were one and the same until a police artist sketched a scraggly beard and an unruly crop of hair onto a rendering of an Oswald mug shot.

Russo, however, also declared that he saw "Leon Oswald" at the now-dead Ferrie's flat several other times in September and even October of 1963 (the Warren Commission said Lee Harvey Oswald left New Orleans Sept. 25, never to return).

Under cross-examination, Russo agreed that "Leon Oswald" was clean-shaven and neatly dressed on the last occasion he had seen him. But he still insisted that pictures of Lee Harvey Oswald never rang a bell in his mind until the beard was added by Garrison's men.

Defense Attorney F. Irvin Dymond was incredulous. He showed Russo the clean-shaven Lee Harvey Oswald mug shot. Russo refused to identify it as a photo of anyone he had ever met.

Why not, if by his own account he had once seen "Leon Oswald" clean-shaven? Dymond asked.

"Because I only saw him (that way) six to eight to ten minutes," Russo replied.

Russo denied that he was to have any role in the assassination plot himself. He said he was simply waiting for a ride home from Ferrie's place while the others talked away.

"It was their business," he said nonchalantly. "I wasn't particularly interested."

Russo then was asked if it was understood that Clay, Ferrie and Shaw were to participate actively in the assassination.

He replied: "I didn't get that impression, no. They never named names."

Coroner Testifies

Russo was followed to the witness stand by Orleans Parish Coroner Nicholas Chetta who said he supervised not only the hypnotic spells Russo was put under, but also a sodium pentathol (so-called truth serum) test.

"I feel Perry Russo fulfills all of the legal requirements of sanity," Dr. Chetta said.

Dr. Chetta endorsed the use of both sodium pentathol and hypnosis.

"It helps the individual to recall things he would not ordinarily recall, remember things that are forgotten, and reveal things he might not care to reveal," he said.

Also subpoenaed before the grand jury was night-club operator Gordon Novel, who has told newsmen he expected to be questioned about "activities during 1961 which are related to Mr. Sergio Arcacha Smith."

A Cuban exile leader here before leaving in 1962, Arcacha was close to Ferrie, who fancied himself a Cuban freedom fighter. Garrison's investigators tried vainly last month to question Arcacha in Dallas.